Appln. No. 10/595,097 Filing Date February 10, 2006 **EXPRESS ABANDONMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.138** First Named Inventor Louis AERTS Art Unit 3663 TO:MAIL STOP EXPRESS ABANDONMENT **Examiner Name** NOT YET KNOWN Commissioner for Patents Docket Number O93171 P.O. Box 1450 SEALING DEVICE FOR THE OUTER Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 SURFACE OF A NUCLEAR FUEL **CLADDING** Please **check only one** of boxes 1 or 2 below: (If no box is checked, this paper will be treated as a request for express abandonment as of the filing date of this paper.) **Express Abandonment** I request that the above-identified application, but not the invention disclosed therein, be expressly abandoned as of the filing date of this paper. 2. Express Abandonment in Favor of a Continuing Application I request that the above-identified application, but not the invention disclosed therein, be expressly abandoned as of the filing date accorded the continuing application filed previously or herewith. **NOTE:** A paper requesting express abandonment of an application is not effective unless and until an appropriate USPTO official recognizes and acts on the paper. See MPEP § 711.01. TO AVOID PUBLICATION, PLEASE USE FORM PTO/SB/24A INSTEAD OF THIS FORM. I am the: \square applicant. □ assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR § 3.71. Statement under 37 CFR § 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96) ☑ attorney or agent of record. Reg. No. 18,879 □ attorney or agent acting under 37 CFR § 1.34(a) (may act under 37 CFR § 1.34(a) only if box 2 above, stating that the application is expressly abandoned in favor of a continuing application, is checked). Attorney or agent registration number if acting under 37 CFR § 1.34(a). Reg. No. [Enter Reg. No.] February 16, 2007 /John H. Mion/ Signature Date John H. Mion 202-663-7901 Typed or printed name Telephone Number SUGHRUE MION, PLLC WASHINGTON OFFICE 23373 CUSTOMER NUMBER Note: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit

multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.

☑ Total of 1 form is submitted.